

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0125

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 15541

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ABLD, ASEC, AFSP

SUBJ: PROPOSED MARINE GUARD QUARTERS CONSTRUCTION

FPR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY RALSTON FROM AMBASSADOR VOLPE

REF: STATE 228698

1. ALL EFFORTS AT THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE LOCAL LEVEL HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED. I BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT THE SUGGESTIONS WHICH FOLLOW WILL SATISFY CITY AUTHORITIES AND MEET MOST OF YOUR OBJECTIONS.

2. PARA 3A AND 3B REFTTEL - I AGREE TO ELIMINATE CONSTRUCTION OVER DISPATCHER OFFICE AREA, ALTHOUGH IT MEANS SACRIFICING THE SEVEN OFFICES AND THE THREE MARINE BEDROOMS THAT WERE TO HAVE BEEN BUILT THERE. THIS CAN BE EXPLAINED TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES AS A PHASE 11 CONSTRUCTION TO BE DONE LATER WHEN FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE.

3. PARA 3C - SINCE SOME INTERIOR LAYOUT FLEXIBILITY IS ALLOWED BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES I ANTICIPATE LITTLE PROBLEM WITH MOVING STAIRS AWAY FROM BEDROOMS AREA TO LOCATION ENVISAGED BY BIRKERT'S PLANS.

4. PARA 3D - I AGREE THAT WIDENING OF NARROW END OF BUILDING IS NOT ONLY EXPENSIVE BUT RESULTS IN NO INCREASE OF AREA. THIS CAN ALSO BE EXPLAINED TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES AS A PART OF THE PROJECT DONE LATER WHEN FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE.

5. PARA 3E - NET USABLE SPACE LOST BY BALCONY WOULD NO LONGER BE THE VITAL FACTOR IT WAS PRIOR TO ELIMINATION OF

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THE OFFICES AND SACRIFICE OF THE BEDROOMS SET FORTH IN PARA 2

ABOVE.

6. PARA 3F - REDESIGN OF PROPOSED ROOF SLOPES AND A PORTION OF THE BALCONY WOULD BE REQUIRED. IN PARTICULAR, THE NARROW END FACADE RETENTION WOULD ENTAIL REDESIGN WITH COMBINATION PITCHED TERRACOTTA TILE AND FLAT ROOF.

7. I TRUST THAT THESE MODIFICATIONS WILL MEET WITH YOUR APPROVAL SO THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO GO AHEAD WITH THE A AND E PLANS WITH AS LITTLE DELAY AS POSSIBLE.VOLPE

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